

REMARKS

The claims are 1 to 6.

The above amendment is responsive to points set forth in the Official Action.

Turning to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112:

In amended claim 1 the rejected phrase "optionally the mixture being substantially free of hydroxy comprising species" has been deleted. As this was an "optional" feature in this claim, the support for this amendment is in the claim itself.

As far as the other rejected phrases are concerned:

-the term "substantial amounts of un-cross-linked polyesters" designates that the reaction was conducted in such a way as to obtain distinct oligomer or polymer molecules and not to push the reaction too far so that a complete crosslinked polymer network was obtained that would be intractable;

-the term "reacting substantially all of the free hydroxy groups present in the resultant mixture" designates that the resultant mixture still can contain some unreacted hydroxy groups. It is common chemical knowledge that reactions involving polymers such as the polyesters used in the present invention, are sometimes not 100% complete. In the present case the amount of unreacted hydroxy groups is further clearly defined in claim 1 by the limitation that the mixture should have a hydroxy number of no more than 100 mg KOH/g (line 12 of claim 1).

Claim 6 (dependent on claim 1) has been added and support is evident from the disclosure at page 3, line 26 of the present specification. It is free from the above rejections.

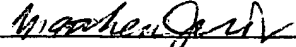
No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn ARCENEUX et al.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

By: 
Matthew M. Jacob
Registration No. 25,154
Attorney for Applicants

MJ/kes
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
March 1, 2005